

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 OIC-04 AEC-11 AECE-00 OMB-01 H-03 NSC-07 SS-20

CU-05 ACDE-00 SAM-01 DRC-01 /157 W

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P R 101631Z JUL 74

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 277

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 MBFR VIENNA 0151

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: AHG MEETING

OF JULY 9, 1974

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: IN ITS JULY 9 MEETING, CHAIRED BY THE US REP, THE AD HOC GROUP REVIEWED A SET OF POSSIBLE QUESTIONS WHICH EASTERN REPS MAY ASK WHEN THE "ALL PARTICIPANTS" FORMULA IS PRESENTED, ALONG WITH SUGGESTED ANSWERS TO GUIDE ALLIED NEGOTIATORS IN THE JULY 10 INFORMAL AND IN SUBSEQUENT BILATERALS.

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THE GROUP ALSO CONFIRMED ITS JULY 5 DECISION TO

RESIST EASTERN REQUESTS TO LENGTHEN THE SUMMER RECESS, HEARD REPORTS OF AN FRG-GDR BILATERAL, AND OF SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN LONDON'S COMMENTS REGARDING CSCE, APPROVED THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE PREVIOUS WEEK (SEPTEL), AND DECIDED THAT THE JULY 18 PLENARY STATEMENT SUMMING UP BEFORE THE RECESS SHOULD BE DELIVERED BY US REP. NEXT AHG MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY 11. END SUMMARY.

2. BILATERALS. FRG REP (BEHREND) REPORTED ON A CONVERSATION WITH GDR REP OESER, WHO HAD SPOKEN PROUDLY OF THE TACTICAL INGENUITY DISPLAYED IN THE EASTERN "FIRST STEP PROPOSAL." OESER HAD SAID THAT THE EAST WAS PREPARED TO DEMONSTRATE CONSIDERABLE FLEXIBILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF AN EFFORT TO AGREE ON A FIRST STEP, BUT THE EASTERN REPS WOULD OFFER NO FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS OF WHAT THE CONTENT OF THIS FIRST STEP MIGHT BE UNTIL THE ALLIES AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO ACCEPT THE IDEA OF A LIMITED FIRST REDUCTION AGREEMENT. OESER ALSO HAD REFERRED TO AN ARTICLE IN THE JULY 13 VIENNA NEWSPAPER DIE PRESSE, WHICH REPORTED THAT THE WEST HAD REALIZED THAT A SIMPLE REFUSAL BY NON-US WESTERN DIRECT PARTICIPANTS TO ENTER INTO FIRST PHASE COMMITMENTS WOULD NOT WORK, AND THAT CONSEQUENTLY THE WEST HAD OFFERED A FREEZE ON NON-US FORCES. BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSEN) REMARKED THAT THE JOURNALIST WHO HAD WRITTEN THE DIE PRESSE ARTICLE HAD CALLED HIM THE PREVIOUS WEEK TO PROBE REGARDING REPORTS FROM EASTERN REPS THAT THE FRG WOULD PARTICIPATE IN PHASE I AND THAT THE WEST WOULD SOON PUBLICIZE ITS NO-INCREASE OFFER. BELGIAN REP HAD DENIED BOTH REPORTS, BUT BELIEVED THAT THE ARTICLE HAD RESULTED FROM EASTERN LEAKS OF THIS KIND.

3. UK REP (ROSE) SAID HE HAD QUERIED LONDON ABOUT THE STATEMENT MADE BEFORE THE DIPLOMATIC AND COMMONWEALTH WRITERS ASSOCIATION ON JULY 2 BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR (TO THE UK) LUNKOV, TO THE EFFECT THAT IF CSCE BROKE DOWN THERE WAS A DANGER OF A NEW COLD WAR OR POSSIBLY EVEN A HOT WAR. LONDON CONFIRMED THAT THIS REMARK HAD

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IN FACT DEFINITELY BEEN MADE AS AN IMPROMPTU ADDITION TO A WRITTEN SPEECH. SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE LUNCHEON HAD SOUGHT WITHOUT SUCCESS TO CALL BACK OR SOFTEN LUNKOV'S REMARK. ROSE SAID HE WAS REPORTING TO THE AHG ON THIS MATTER GIVEN THE APPARENT SOVIET UNWILLINGNESS TO MOVE AHEAD IN VIENNA UNTIL CSCE MOVED TOWARD ITS CONCLUSION AND IN VIEW OF INQUIRIES BY SEVERAL AHG REPS.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING ALL PARTICIPANTS FORMULA.

4. AD HOC GROUP THEN TURNED TO A SET OF CONTINGENCY
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING THE "ALL PARTICIPANTS"
FORMULA WHICH HAD BEEN PREPARED BY THE US DELEGATION.

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P R 101631Z JUL 74

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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 3 MBFR VIENNA 0151

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

US DEP REP EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS NOT INTENDED TO ANSWER
TOO MANY EASTERN QUESTIONS AT THE JULY 10 INFORMAL
SESSION, BUT THAT AHG REPS NEEDED TO BE READY WITH
AGREED REPLIES TO EASTERN FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS. FRG AND
CANADIAN REPS AGREED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR
ALLIED REPS TO FOLLOW A UNIFIED LINE IN RESPONSE TO SUCH

QUESTIONS. IN THE DISCUSSION OF THE DRAFT, THE FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS AROSE:

(A) ITALIAN ACTING REP (TALIANI) WAS UNEASY ABOUT HOW TO REAT LUXEMBOURG, POINTING OUT THAT THE ALLIES
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WOULD LEAVE THEMSELVES EXPOSED IF THEY WERE TOO BLUNT ABOUT CALLING LUXEMBOURG AN EXCEPTION. US DEP REP STRESSED THE NEED FOR A CLEAR STATEMENT EXCLUDING LUXEMBOURG FROM ALLIED REDUCTIONS. NETHERLANDS REP (QUARLES) POINTED OUT THAT, ALTHOUGH LUXEMBOURG WOULD NOT REDUCE, IT WOULD ADHERE TO THE COMMITMENT TO MAINTAIN THE COMMON CEILING. AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, AHG ACCEPTED A FORMULATION MAKING CLEAR THAT LUXEMBOURG FORCES WOULD NOT BE REDUCED.

(B) NETHERLANDS REP QUESTIONED WHETHER IT WAS WISE TO TERM AS PREMATURE POSSIBLE EASTERN QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT CORRESPONDING COMMITMENTS THE ALLIES WOULD ASK OF THE EAST EUROPEANS. ITALIAN ACTING REP POINTED OUT THAT THE ALLIES HAVE MADE NO DECISION ON THIS POINT, AND THEREFORE SHOULD AVOID DISCUSSING IT. AHG CONCLUDED THAT ANY SUBSTANTIVE ALLIED REACTION TO SUCH AN EASTERN QUESTION WOULD INVITE DISCUSSION OF A TOPIC WHICH THE ALLIES DID NOT WISH TO ADDRESS. HENCE, IT WAS AGREED TO SLOUGH OFF THESE EASTERN QUERIES BY BRANDING THEM AS "PREMATURE" AT THIS TIME.

(C) AS AT THE JULY 5 AHG MEETING (MBFR VIENNA 145), SEVERAL REPS POINTED OUT THE DIFFICULTY IN PERSUADING THE EAST THAT THE "ALL-PARTICIPANTS" OFFER WAS A SIGNIFICANT WESTERN MOVE IN VIEW OF THE EXTREMELY TIGHTLY HEDGED NAC GUIDANCE, BUT ALL AGREED THAT NAC GUIDANCE (ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARILY EXACT NAC LANGUAGE) WOULD HAVE TO BE FOLLOWED STRICTLY.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0279

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INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

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USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T SECTION 3 OF 3 MBFR VIENNA 0151

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

5. SUMMER RECESS. US REP REPORTED THAT SOVIET REP
KHLESTOV HAD ASKED HIM WHETHER THE SUMMER RECESS COULD
BEGIN SLIGHTLY EARLIER THAN PLANNED. KHLESTOV PROPOSED HOLDING THE
FINAL INFORMAL ON JULY 15 AND FINAL PLENARY ON JULY 16,
INSTEAD OF ON RESPECTIVELY JULY 16 AND 18 AS NOW SCHEDULED.
BELGIAN REP SAID HE HAD RECEIVED THE SAME REQUEST FROM
KHLESTOV, AS WELL AS A SOVIET SUGGESTION THAT, WHILE THE
PUBLIC POSITION COULD REMAIN THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD
RESUME THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 16, THE FIRST PLENARY SHOULD
NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 27. UK REP (ROSE) NOTED
THE CONTRAST OF THIS SOVIET APPROACH WITH SOVIET RESISTANCE

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TO A SUMMER RECESS IN CSCE. ROSE SUGGESTED THAT THE
ALLIES STICK TO THE PREVIOUSLY CONTEMPLATED TIMETABLE.
DUTCH REP (QUARLES) SAID THAT IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO GIVE
EASTERN REPS ALL THE TIME THEY NEED TO CONSULT WITHIN
THEIR GOVERNMENTS BEFORE RETURNING IN THE AUTUMN. CON-
SEQUENTLY, IF EASTERN REPS REALLY NEEDED MORE TIME, THE WEST
SHOULD BE FLEXIBLE.

6. IT EMERGED THAT PACT HAD NOT IN FACT FIRMLY AGREED TO A RESUMPTIO
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AROUND SEPTEMBER 16. IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO
HAVE A FIRM DATE FOR THE FIRST FALL PLENARY. CONSEQUENTLY,
THE ALLIES WILL PROPOSE TO THE EAST THAT A PUBLIC
ANNOUNCEMENT BE MADE THAT "NEGOTIATIONS WOULD RESUME
THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 16" BUT THAT THE FIRST PLENARY
WOULD BE SET BY INTERNAL AGREEMENT AMONG THE CON-
FEREES FOR SEPTEMBER 24 WITH THE PRACTICAL EFFECT THAT
EASTERN REPS WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO RETURN TO
VIENNA UNTIL THE END OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 16.

7. THE AHG APPROVED CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, PREPARED BY UK,
REGARDING WEEK OF JULY 1-5 (SEPTTEL). AHG ALSO AGREED
THAT THE US REP SHOULD DELIVER WESTERN PLENARY
STATEMENT ON JULY 18 SUMMING UP BEFORE THE SUMMER RECESS.

8. NEXT AHG MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JULY 11, 1974. RESOR

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